

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to Figures 1a and 1b.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed November 24, 2009. Claims 1, 5-9, 12-14, and 17-20 are amended above. New claim 21 is added above. Claims 2-4 are canceled above without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 10-11 and 15-16 were previously withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement. Claims 1, 5-9, 12-14, and 17-21 are currently pending in this application. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by way of the amendments made herein. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, and favorable action on all remaining claims, in view of these amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) as failing to show every feature of the claimed invention. In particular, the Examiner asserts that "a tetrahedron" and "a truncated pyramid" are not shown in the drawings. Applicant respectfully directs the attention of the Examiner to FIGS. 13 and 14 of the drawings as filed where a truncated pyramid and a polyhedron are shown. In addition, the Examiner has objected to Figures 1a and 1b. Replacement Figures 1a and 1b are submitted herewith. Applicant respectfully submits that the drawings are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner's objections be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the Specification. The Specification has been amended above in accordance with the Examiner's instructions. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to claim 1-9, 12-14, and 17-20 due to various informalities. Claims 2-4 are canceled above rendering objections applied thereto moot. Claims 1, 5-9, 12-14, and 17-20 are amended above consistent with the Examiner's instructions. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 5-9, 12-14, and 17-20 are in condition for allowance and request that the Examiner's rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 1-9, 12-14, and 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 2-4 have been canceled above rendering rejections applied thereto

moot. Claims 1, 5-9, 12-14, and 17-20 have been amended above to resolve the problems identified by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 5-9, 12-14, and 17-20, as amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's § 112 rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-7, 9, 12-14, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,065,890 to Fenner ("Fenner"). Applicant respectfully traverses these claim rejections.

Claim 1 has been amended above to recite, *inter alia*, a gas-tight inflatable hollow body. Applicant respectfully submits that Fenner fails to disclose this claim feature.

Fenner relates to a framework of hollow rods that are connectable by connecting members. Fenner discloses that tubes and connecting members that are hollow so as to allow passage of, for example, electric cables or water lines there through.¹ In contrast to amended claim 1, Fenner contains no disclosure of a gas-tight inflatable hollow body as claimed in amended claim 1. For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Fenner and is in condition for allowance.

Claims 5-7, 9, 12-14, and 18 depend from, and further restrict, independent claim 1 in a patentable sense. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that, for at least those reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 1, dependent claims 5-7, 9, 12-14, and 18 are also not anticipated by Fenner and are in condition for allowance.

Claims 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fenner. Applicant respectfully traverses these claim rejections. Claims 17 and 19 depend from, and further restrict, independent claim 1 in a patentable sense. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that, for at least those reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 1, dependent claims 17 and 19 are distinguishable over Fenner and are in condition for allowance.

¹ Fenner, col. 3, ll.25-35.

New claim 21 has been added above. New claim 21 depends from, and further restricts, independent claim 1 in a patentable sense. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that, for at least those reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 1, new claim 21 is distinguishable over Fenner and is in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments